

# Building Our *Future Together*

*Three Year Pastoral Plan*  
2019 – 2021



ST. RAPHAEL



HOLYANGELS

## Mission Statement

We, the members of St. Raphael-Holy Angels Church, are called by God to be the visible, compassionate and healing presence of Jesus in our world. We aspire to be signs of faithful discipleship by worshipping the Trinity, igniting our youth, ministering to those in need, providing lifelong religious and spiritual formation and respecting life in all its forms.

As disciples of the Lord, we strive to:

**Know God** – through the teachings of scripture, revelation and Catholic tradition;

**Love God** – by loving one another as Jesus loves us, with care, respect, compassion and mercy;

**Serve God** – by being stewards of God's creation through service to our parish, school, community and world.

## Vision Statement

*With God's grace, we dedicate ourselves to:*

- Becoming a joyful, hospitable parish community, continually growing in faith, hope and love
- Worshipping with a profound sense of gratitude, joy, adoration and praise;
- Reaching out to those who have fallen away from active practice of the faith or sacraments
- Becoming a beacon of hope for those who seek meaning and purpose in life;
- Welcoming all as brother and sister, striving to be a bridge between generations, ethnic communities and those who are in any way isolated or marginalized by society;
- Sharing our gifts, talents and resources in generous service to the Church and community.

## Core Values

*Responding to our Baptismal call, and led by the Holy Spirit, the St. Raphael-Holy Angels parish family is committed to living the following nine core values in all we do:*

- ∴ **Community** *We believe we are one family united in the Body of Christ and so we seek to:*
  - Be a place of hospitality where all are welcome, all feel a sense of belonging and no one is excluded, especially those who are ill, homebound, unchurched, alienated, or in any way marginalized by society;
  - Transcend differences, embracing the diverse cultures of those who comprise our parish community and finding joy in the celebration of our varied heritages, languages and traditions.
- ∴ **Stewardship** *We recognize God as the ultimate Source of all the talents, resources and opportunities we use on a daily basis and so we:*
  - Support our parish community through consistent financial contributions, according to our means;
  - Commit ourselves to responsible, transparent stewardship of all parish resources, to support the mission and core values of the parish;
  - Claim and freely share our personal gifts and talents, to support one another and to assist in meeting the needs of the larger parish community and global community;
  - Sacrifice from our abundance, so others may have the essentials needed to live;
  - Actively care for all of God’s creation, especially Mother Earth-- our home— so earth’s life-sustaining treasures will be preserved for future generations.
- ∴ **Word** *We believe Jesus is truly present in the Scriptures, and so we:*
  - Boldly proclaim the Word as the living presence of Jesus Christ, remembering Him, believing His promises and inviting His Word to inform our everyday life decisions;
  - Ensure quality formation for all catechists and those who proclaim the Word;
  - Allocate adequate staff, space and resources to carry out our catechetical programs;
  - Assist parents in their role as primary teachers of Christian values.

- ∴ **Evangelization** *We believe we are commissioned by Jesus to make disciples of all nations and so we:*
  - Promote spiritual formation as a life-long process, bringing those in all stages of life closer to God through quality religious education opportunities;
  - Create a place of belonging for our youth – nurturing their relationships with our triune God, family and community; empowering them by calling forth their gifts and talents, creating peer leadership opportunities and encouraging service outreach;
  - Actively reach out to those who do not know the transforming love of God;
  - Offer a spiritual home to all who no longer feel welcome or connected to a parish community, especially those who have physical, emotional or cognitive challenges.
- ∴ **Leadership** *In the spirit of shared leadership, we call forth and nurture leadership skills from all age groups in our parish community to ensure our sacred mission continues into the future.*
- ∴ **Worship** *We believe Eucharist is the source and summit of our Christian life and so we:*



*We are the Body of Christ. In our celebration of Eucharist, we receive the true presence of Jesus—body, blood, soul and divinity. In doing so we join the Body of Christ throughout the world. In fellowship and hospitality we are called to live the Gospel by freely sharing our gifts, talents and resources in service to all in need.*

- Worship through full and active participation in all Eucharistic celebrations, rites, traditions and adoration at the Perpetual Adoration Chapel;
- Engage the assembly with preaching that links scriptures to everyday life experiences;
- Invite members of the parish community to serve in liturgical roles;
- Encourage a vibrant music ministry that actively engages the assembly in sung prayer;
- Involve our youth in all aspects of liturgical celebration.
- ∴ **Service** *Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and asked that we do the same and so, according to our ability, we humble ourselves to serve all who are in need and take action to eliminate injustice wherever we find it, through involvement in our many outreach ministries.*
- ∴ **Respect for Life** *We believe in the sanctity of all life and so we strive to:*
  - Protect the dignity of life at all stages – from conception to natural death – with special attention to protecting the unborn;
  - Defend all who are weak and vulnerable in whatever way we can;
  - Extend unconditional love to all whose beliefs, orientations or politics may differ from our own;
  - Eliminate poverty, trafficking, terrorism and discrimination of any kind;
  - Promote awareness of Respect For Life issues and events.
- ∴ **Promoting Catholic Education** *We believe it is a sacred obligation to pass on our Catholic faith, and so, inspired by faith, empowered by knowledge and united by community, we:*
  - Provide academic excellence in an atmosphere of mutual love and respect, where each student experiences God’s love daily, is inspired to develop personal talents and empowered to be a productive and prayerful member of the community;
  - Ensure that all sacramental preparation and spiritual formation inspires love of God, the Scriptures and encourages active participation in Eucharistic celebrations, Catholic faith traditions and Catholic social teaching.

*“If we receive the Eucharist worthily,  
we become what we receive”*

– St. Augustine, yr. 227



## Four Key Priorities

1. Become more intentional about extending the invitation to become involved in groups and ministries
2. Become a more joy-filled, welcoming parish
3. Better communication, coordination and collaboration between leaders and among parish ministries and organizations
4. Full and active participation in the Mass

***All are invited to join in the fun and fellowship!***

Each of us has a unique part to play in implementing this Pastoral Plan. Please take a moment to review this flyer and prayerfully reflect on how you might be able to be part of this parish journey. Feel free to call the **Rectory** at **609.585.7049** or contact a member of the Parish Council (*names and email addresses on Parish Website*) to discuss how you can make a difference with your talents.

***Every person matters!***

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